# HAWAIIAN TELCOM Weekly Update Significant Activities August 28, 2006

### **Back Office System Conversion**

A key element of recreating Hawaiian Telcom into an independent, locally-managed telecommunications company is the development of its own back office systems. Previously, its back office systems were primarily provided by Verizon Communications through data and other centers located on the mainland. Work on building the Hawaii back office systems began well before May 2005 when Verizon Hawaii became Hawaiian Telcom. In April 2006, the transition from the old back office systems to Hawaiian Telcom's newly developed systems began.

Information regarding new bill format and other changes can be found on the Hawaiian Telcom web site at <a href="https://www.hawaiiantel.com">www.hawaiiantel.com</a>

### **Telecommunications Network Functioning Well**

Of paramount importance with the conversion was minimizing any adverse impact to the operation of the Company's network which serves as the State of Hawaii's telecommunications backbone. Since the conversion, critical elements such as the E911 emergency services, operator services, directory assistance and the telecommunications network in general have continued to function well. For example, common measures of network performance such as the *Percent Of Dial Tone Speed Within 3 Seconds* and *Percent Toll Trunks* > *P.0005 Grade of Service* continue to reflect network performance at, or higher than, levels prior to the conversion.

#### **Customer Contact Centers**

The Company's customer contact centers experienced a significant increase in call volume when the system conversions began in early April. Initially, the high call volume was due to a combination of factors including service calls resulting from the extreme weather conditions that were occurring throughout the month of February and March (e.g., 40 days of heavy rain) and customers calling with questions about the conversion of their email and internet access from Verizon to Hawaiian Telcom.

This increase in volume occurred at the same time company representatives were becoming more familiar with the new Hawaiian Telcom customer-interfacing systems and adapting to performing certain process functions on a manual basis until the systems transitioned became fully functional. The combination of the longer call handling times on the converted systems and the higher call volumes resulted in the time customers may have been on hold when calling a contact center being longer than normal.

## Billing Statement Intervals Compressed Temporarily

In mid-April, Hawaiian Telcom began issuing billing statements to its customers using its own billing system. After the Company detected a software error that impacted approximately 12,000 customers, Hawaiian Telcom immediately suspended the further issuance of billing statements. The subsequent commencement of the billing statements after the initial suspension resulted in "compressed" intervals between billing statements through the end of June and early July.

During the period that billing statements were issued with the compressed intervals, some customers experienced bills that did not reflect payments that they may have made or contained other billing errors that were attributable to the compression of the billing statement intervals. Billing intervals for all customers returned to the typical 30-day interval which will significantly reduce the number of bills issued that do not timely reflect payments made.

#### Network Performance Metrics

Common Toll Trunk Groups:

• All trunk groups meeting the P.0005 standard

% Dial Tone Speed Within 3 Seconds:

Statewide total of 99.97%

#### **Contact Center Availability**

Historical call volumes to
Hawaiian Telcom's contact
centers vary considerably by
day of the week and time of
the day. The Company
encourages customers to call
during the days and times
that are not as busy and that
are convenient for them.

# Billing Statement Intervals

Billing statements were temporarily issued using intervals between a customer's bills that were shorter than the normal 30 days. As of July, the interval for billing statements has returned to the typical 30 days for all customers.

### **Customer Contact Center Accessibility Update**

The volume of calls to the Company's contact centers has lessened since the initial period following the system conversions although they remain higher than normal. The reduction in the call volumes, combined with actions taken internally by the Company to address the higher call volumes, have resulted in improvements in customers accessing representatives in Hawaiian Telcom's call centers.

Since the conversion, the Company has significantly increased the number of personnel fielding calls in the contact centers, made available more information on its web site, increased messaging on its interactive voice response system, modified call routing within the call centers and a number of other actions that have helped to address the higher call volumes and longer transaction times for customers calling into the contact centers.

Answer time statistics, which reflect the ability of customers to reach customer representatives, in the customer contact centers continue to improve. The Company's long distance and directory assistance contact centers continued to reflect extremely strong answer time measurements through the system conversions. The answer time statistics based on a stringent threshold of only 10 seconds for the long distance and directory assistance operators are shown below:

	Percent of Operator Toll Calls Answered in 10 seconds	Percent of Directory Assistance Calls Answered in 10 seconds				
2005 Average	89.57	89.67				
2006 Jan	88.28	90.51				
Feb	89.23	89.40				
Mar	87.34	88.60				
Apr	91.49	86.30				
May	89.66	87.59				
Jun	83.74	78.37				
Jul	89.89	87.13				
Aug*	90.50	91.00				
* partial month results						

Answer time statistics for the residential and business contact centers as well as the repair center continue to show improvement in customers accessing the centers. When measuring on a base of calls answered within an extremely short 20 seconds, all call centers are continuing to reflect improving answer times. The percent of calls being answered by a contact center representative using a two-minute threshold is also shown below.

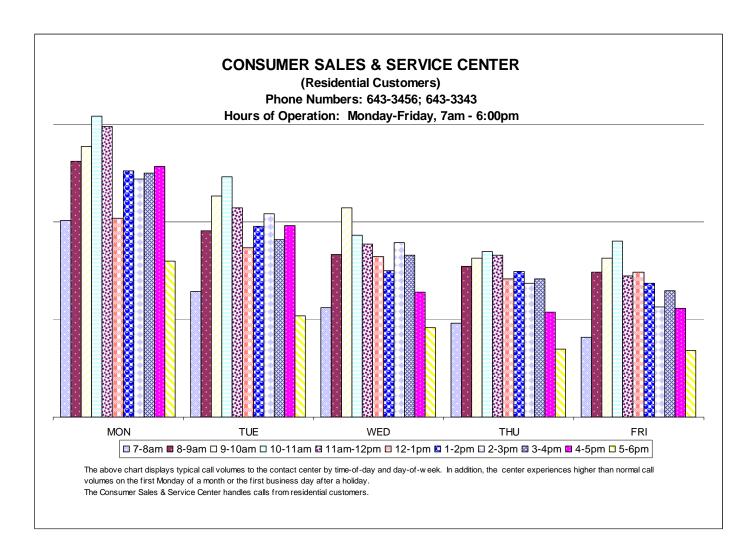
	Percent of Repair Calls Answered		Percent of Business Office Calls Answered		Percent of Residential Office Calls Answered	
	In 20 Seconds	In 2 Minutes	In 20 Seconds	In 2 Minutes	In 20 Seconds	In 2 Minutes
2005 Average	89.96		88.23		87.46	
2006 Jan	82.77		91.78		87.71	
Feb Mar	88.43 82.27		87.84 89.98		76.67 68.13	
Apr May	36.66 44.50		44.59 12.83		19.75 8.01	
Jun Jul	27.27 41.00		17.15 34.22		10.37 11.41	
Aug* * partial month	52.43 results	73.82	69.93	94.80	20.00	75.00

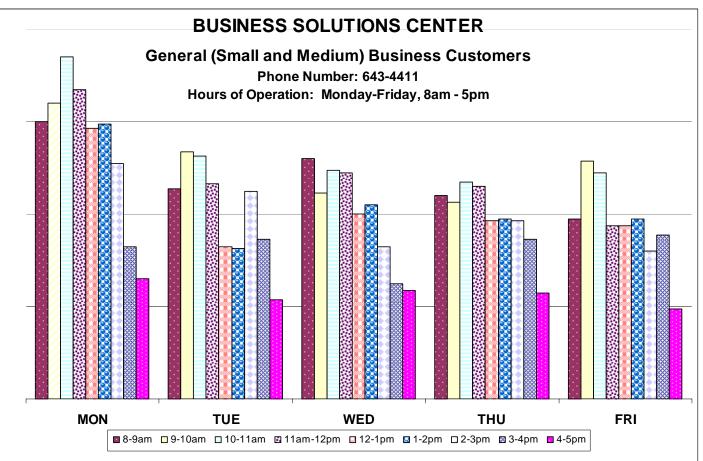
Consistent with the continued improvement in the call answer times reflected in the tables above, the "hold times" (time customer waits in the call queue) for the week have also continued to improve. The average hold times for the contact centers for the past week were: Repair – 0:57 minutes; Residential – 5:09 minutes; and Business – 0:47 minutes.

# Calling During Lower Call Volume Times

As with all call centers, a customer's call into a Hawaiian Telcom contact center could be impacted by the volume of calls to the center at the time of the call. Historically, the pattern of calls into the Company's call centers varies by the time of day and by the day of the week. Generally, a call by a customer during the days and times when call volumes are lower would result in shorter holding times to reach a company representative. Hawaiian Telcom encourages customers to call during the days and times that are not as busy and that are convenient for them.

Following are charts that display the historical call volume patterns for the residential and business contact centers that callers can consider when contacting Hawaiian Telcom. The Company's repair contact center accepts calls on a 24/7 basis and customers to that call center are encouraged to call as needed.





The above chart displays typical call volumes to the contact center by time-of-day and day-of-week. In addition, the center experiences higher than normal call volumes on the first Monday of a month or the first business day after a holiday.

The Business Solutions Center handles calls from general business customers. Large business customers should contact their respective Hawaiian Telcom account manager.